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## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

## NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Commissioner  
 US Department of Commerce  
 United States Patent and Trademark  
 Office, PCT  
 2011 South Clark Place Room  
 CP2/5C24  
 Arlington, VA 22202  
 ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE  
 in its capacity as elected Office

<b>Date of mailing</b> (day/month/year) 12 June 2001 (12.06.01)	
<b>International application No.</b> PCT/US00/22503	<b>Applicant's or agent's file reference</b> 068408.0102
<b>International filing date</b> (day/month/year) 16 August 2000 (16.08.00)	<b>Priority date</b> (day/month/year) 17 August 1999 (17.08.99)
<b>Applicant</b> THAKUR, Sunil, Vasantao et al	

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

☒ in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:  
 13 March 2001 (13.03.01)

☐ in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:  
 \_\_\_\_\_

2. The election ☒ was  
☐ was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland  Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer Claudio Borton  Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38
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## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the  
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

To:  
ROGER FULGHUM  
BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.  
ONE SHELL PLAZA  
910 LOUISIANA  
HOUSTON, TX 77002-4995

**PCT**

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF  
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Rule 71.1)

Date of Mailing  
(day/month/year)

**04 DEC 2001**

Applicant's or agent's file reference

068408.0102

**IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION**

International application No.

PCT/US00/22503

International filing date (day/month/year)

16 August 2000 (16.08.2000)

Priority date (day/month/year)

17 August 1999 (17.08.1999)

Applicant

THAKUR, SUNIL VASANTRAO

1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.
4. **REMINDER**

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices)(Article 39(1))(see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Box PCT  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Facsimile No. (703)305-3230

Authorized officer

Eric Stamber

*James R. Matthews*

Telephone No. 703-305-3900

Form PCT/IPEA/416 (July 1992)

PCT

REC'D 10 DEC 2001

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## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 068408.0102		<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/US00/22503	International filing date (day/month/year) 16 August 2000 (16.08.2000)	Priority date (day/month/year) 17 August 1999 (17.08.1999)	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC IPC(7): G06F 17/60 and US Cl.: 705/14,26,27			
Applicant THAKUR, SUNIL VASANTRAO			
<p>1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>7</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).</p> <p>These annexes consist of a total of <u>7</u> sheets.</p>			
<p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p>I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report</p> <p>II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority</p> <p>III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of report with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p>IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention</p> <p>V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p>VI <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited</p> <p>VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application</p> <p>VIII <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application</p>			
Date of submission of the demand 13 March 2001 (13.03.2001)		Date of completion of this report 25 October 2001 (25.10.2001)	
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231 Facsimile No. (703)305-3230		Authorized officer Eric Stamber <i>James R. Matthews</i> Telephone No. 703-305-3900	

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/US00/22503

## I. Basis of the report

## 1. With regard to the elements of the international application:\*

- ☐ the international application as originally filed.
- ☒ the description:  
pages 1-38 as originally filed  
pages NONE, filed with the demand  
pages NONE, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☒ the claims:  
pages NONE, as originally filed  
pages NONE, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19  
pages NONE, filed with the demand  
pages 39-42/4, filed with the letter of 15 August 2001.
- ☒ the drawings:  
pages 1-7, as originally filed  
pages NONE, filed with the demand  
pages NONE, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:  
pages NONE, as originally filed  
pages NONE, filed with the demand  
pages NONE, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.

## 2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language \_\_\_\_\_ which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

## 3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in printed form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☒ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages NONE
- ☒ the claims, Nos. 1,2,6, 21-22
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/~~fig~~ NONE

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).\*\*

\* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

\*\* Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

# INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International Application No.  
PCT/US00/22503

## V. Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

### 1. STATEMENT

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>3-5, 7-19, 23-41</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO
Inventive Step (IS)	Claims <u>3-5, 7-19, 23-41</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO
Industrial Applicability (IA)	Claims <u>3-5, 7-19, 23-41</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO

### 2. CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Please See Continuation Sheet

# INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US00/22503

## VI. Certain documents cited

### 1. Certain published documents (Rule 70.10)

Application No <u>Patent No.</u>	Publication Date <u>(day/month/year)</u>	Filing Date <u>(day/month/year)</u>	Priority date (valid claim) <u>(day/month/year)</u>
US 6,009,411 A	28 December 1999 (28.12.1999)	14 November 1997 (14.11.1997)	17 August 1999 (17.08.1999)

### 2. Non-written disclosures (Rule 70.9)

<u>Kind of non-written disclosure</u>	Date of non-written disclosure <u>(day/month/year)</u>	Date of written disclosure referring to non-written disclosure <u>(day/month/year)</u>

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT**

International Application No.

PCT/US00/22503

**VIII. Certain observations on the international application**

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the questions whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

Claim 20 (which has not been declared cancelled by the letter of 15 August 2001 but is not now present in the replacement sheets) is objected to under PCT Rule 66.2(a)(v) as lacking clarity under PCT Article 6 because claim20 is indefinite for the following reason(s): it fails to point out what is included or excluded by the claim language

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT**

International Application No.  
PCT/US00/22503

**Supplemental Box**

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

**V. 2. Citations and Explanations:**

Claims 1,2,6, 21-22 have been cancelled. (Please note claim 20 is not in the claims replacement sheets: It is taken that Applicants intend to cancel claim 20)

Claims 3,7,12 have been amended to become independent. New claims 23-41 are added. Claims 3-5, 7-19, 23-41 are now in this application.

Claims 3-5, 7-19 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(4), because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest

A business system comprising  
magnetic strip card with consumer identifying  
information encoded thereon,  
said information identifying a consumer desiring to conduct a transaction with a vendor,  
a host system that maintains information about said vendor,

an apparatus for reading information on the magnetic said apparatus interconnected with and in communication with the host system,  
and

means for applying any applicable discount related to said transaction for the benefit of said consumer

wherein the apparatus for reading information is located with the consumer (claim 3),  
wherein the communicating computer is at the consumer location (claim 4)  
and which comprises means for calculating a future discount for the consumer based on the transaction information (claim 7) and ,  
wherein the geographic location of the consumer is determined (claim 12).

The claims dependent upon the above-cited claims , by virtue of their dependencies, are not fairly taught or suggested by the prior art as well.

New Claims 23-41 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(4), because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT**

International Application No.  
PCT/US00/22503

**Supplemental Box**

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Claims 23 and 41.

A business system comprising  
magnetic strip card with consumer identifying information encoded thereon,  
said information identifying a consumer desiring to conduct a transaction with a vendor at a vendor location,

a host system remote from the vendor location that maintains information about said vendor,

an apparatus for reading the consumer identifying information on the magnetic strip card, said apparatus interconnected with and in  
communication with the host system, for ascertaining any applicable discounts of said discounts,

means apart from the magnetic strip card for applying any applicable discount of said discounts related to said transaction at the  
vendor location for the benefit of said consumer

The claims dependent upon the claim 23 above, by virtue of their dependencies, are not fairly taught or suggested by the prior art as  
well.